



PARISH OF ST JOHNS WOOD THE GAP

(encompasses Mater Dei and St Peter Chanel churches united as one community)

Vol 6, Issue 40

25 October 2026

“Growing in Faith * Building Community * Nurturing Youth

30th SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Ex 22:20-26

If you are harsh with the widow or the orphan, my anger will rage against you.

Second Reading: 1 Thes 1:5-10

You turned away from idols to serve God and await his Son.

Gospel: Matthew 22:34-40

You shall love the Lord your God and your neighbour as yourself.

This week's Gospel reflection: GOD HEARS THE CRIES OF THE NEEDY

It was said of one of my confrères he had only one sermon, which began and ended with the reassurance that “God loves you”. The people still treasure his memory because they knew he wanted the best for them, even though he became confused towards the end of his life.

I have often reflected I would prefer to be remembered in this way than to be part of that tradition which had our Redemptorist Congregation labelled “the hell-fire preachers”. It is true we are all products of our own time and experience and as we listen to the Scriptures, we are reminded of how low we humans can stoop, and how violent we can be.

At the same time, as in the extract we have this week from Exodus, we are reminded that God is calling his chosen people to reach out in compassion to the stranger and the widow, the orphan and the needy for God hears their cries. We, God's chosen ones today, need no reminder there are still millions of people crying out to God: people fleeing for their lives from the ravages of war and oppression, caught up in the political crossfire that seeks to shift the blame for social disorder on migrants and the stranger rather than the appalling abuses of power that arise from new forms of selfish nationalism.

When Paul writes to the Thessalonians, he is congratulating them on the good example they are setting of Christian living and this is surely a reminder to us, we can make a difference if we go to the heart of the gospel and strive to live a life of love.

We know the religious authorities in the time of Jesus were concerned he was undermining their authority and we are told how they repeatedly tried to rattle him with their questioning. We have one such occasion in the gospel when He is asked to name the greatest of the commandments. Jesus is not flustered but reminds them there is no commandment from the Law and the Prophets that is not caught up in the mystery of love.

In his letter to the early communities, Saint James insists it does not make sense to talk about faith unless you do good works (2:14f) and, of course, the same is true of love: it is not a concept to talk about, but a life to be lived. Jesus demonstrates this by reaching out to all those who come to him in need. Bishop Michael Curry, an Episcopalian who preached at a Royal Wedding many years ago could not have put it more clearly: firstly, he quoted Dr Martin Luther King: “We must discover the power of love, the redemptive power of love; and when we do that, we will make of this old world a new world – for love, love is the only way.”

Then Bishop Curry added: “there is power in love; don't underestimate it; don't even over-sentimentalise it: FOR GOD IS LOVE.”

Timothy J Buckley CSsR © Majellan Media 2026



FUNERAL MASS

The family of Janice Anne Everingham

Welcome you to celebrate and give thanks for her life.

St Peter Chanel Catholic Church

41 Chaprowe Road, The Gap

Friday 30th October 2026 at 11am

Friends and family are warmly invited to join us after Mass for refreshments at 98 Suez Street, Mitchelton

TWO-MINUTE HOMILY

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Dcn Chad Hargrave



Deacon Chad encourages us to be imitators of Christ to make God's love visible in the world, through the way we live, speak and serve. [Watch now.](#)

Deceased

Denise McGill, Lorraine Griffiths, Margaret Garonne, Jan Everingham

Anniversary

Neal Mooney, Rosario & Caterina Merenda, Valerio Merenda

Sick

Lorna McConnachie, Norelle Marsen, Kathleen Cosgrove, James Diamond, Robert Minns, Bev Dick, Shane Abrams, Richard King, Beth Kloza, Peter Maher, Peter Townsen, Val Bonney, Julie Allen, Philomena (Nellie's mum), Trish Crawshaw, Carmel Herbert, Christy Murphy, Mary Thomas, Carol Black, Moira De Silva, Margaret Sullivan, Ryan Ferguson, Toni Bennett, Lorraine Stevens, Olivia Muller Farias.

WCCM (Christian Meditation)

Monday at 9.30am Parish Office.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Mater Dei: Monday & Friday
6 - 7pm

Day/Date	Liturgy	Mass Times	Venue
Monday 26/10/2026	Weekday, Ordinary Time 30	9am	Mater Dei
Wednesday 28/10/2026	Sts Simon and Jude, apostles	9am	SPC
Thursday 29/10/2026	Weekday, Ordinary Time 30	9am	SPC
Friday 30/10/2026	Weekday, Ordinary Time 29	9am	Mater Dei
Saturday 31/10/2026	Vigil Mass	5.30pm	Mater Dei
Sunday 01/11/2026	ALL SAINTS	8am 10am 5pm	SPC Mater Dei SPC

All Souls Mass - Remembering Our Loved Ones

All are warmly invited to join us for our All Souls Mass as we come together in prayer to remember and honour those who have died. We especially welcome those who have lost a loved one during the past year. May this special Mass offer comfort, hope and the reassurance of God's loving presence as we remember those who remain forever in our hearts.

Date: Monday 2 November

Time: 6pm

Church: St Peter Chanel Church

Everyone is welcome as we gather in faith, prayer and loving remembrance.

Parish Maintenance and Safety

Keeping our parish safe is everyone's responsibility.

To help ensure a safe environment for our parishioners, volunteers, staff and visitors, we ask that all maintenance concerns, hazards, repairs, or requests for work on parish property be directed to the Parish Office.

Please do not undertake maintenance, repairs, or other work yourself unless you have been specifically authorised to do so. This helps us ensure that work is appropriately assessed, risks are managed, and any necessary approvals or qualified tradespeople are arranged.

If you notice a hazard, damaged equipment, a maintenance issue or anything that may pose a risk to others, **please report it to the Parish Office as soon as possible.**

Thank you to all our wonderful volunteers for helping us maintain a safe, welcoming, and caring parish community.

BAPTISMS THIS WEEKEND

This weekend, we joyfully welcome Ethan, son of Michelle and Darryl, Harry, son of Amelia and Kieran, and George, Patrick and Charli, children of Courtney and Michael who will be celebrating the Sacrament of Baptism on Saturday at SPC.

Baptism is the beginning of a beautiful journey of faith, welcoming each child into God's family and our parish community. We congratulate the families on this special occasion and pray that the Holy Spirit will guide and bless these children throughout their lives. May they always know the love of Jesus and find a spiritual home within our Parish.

~THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH ~

* Monday

9.30am Meditation Group SPC
Adoration 6-7pm MD
6.30pm Young Adults Group SPC

*Wednesday

9am Mass SPC followed by morning tea in the parish office

*Thursday SPC hall
12.30pm Mahjong
10am Happy Patchers group

*Friday at MD
6-7pm Adoration



The Columban Calendars have arrived and are available in the Parish Office for \$10

HOME ROSARY

This week's rosary will be said at the home of Angela on Monday 26 October. Contact the parish office for further details.



Please check out our Parish Webpage and Facebook Page for regular updates.



Children's Liturgy Leaders - Help Needed

Children's Liturgy is offered at the 10am Mass on the first Sunday of each month. This important ministry is urgently seeking expressions of interest from 1-2 more volunteers willing to either lead or assist with delivery of these sessions. This is necessary so we can continue to provide certainty for the monthly sessions, working around the normal schedule challenges all our volunteers operate around in this busy world.

All volunteers need to complete the parish safeguarding requirements prior to commencing. Support is available to learn how it all works, including shadowing an existing session leader. Easy to follow materials are provided through the Archdiocese for each Sunday.

Please contact the parish office, or Donna Lynn at donna.lynn@live.com.au if you are interested in finding out more.



Pope Leo XIV believes the world has no future without strong families. And he adds families need to be open to the gift of children and attentive to their education and growth.

Shortly before he underwent surgery to remove a cancerous nodule in his lung, Pope Leo wrote in a homily, "the importance of the virtues, among which a special place is given to chastity, which is invaluable for the genuine growth of love between persons," in preparing young people for true love in marriage.

The homily was written by Pope Leo and read by new College of Cardinals dean Cardinal Luis Antonio Tagle who presided over the closing Mass for the Vatican meeting on marriage and family.

"Marriage preparation programs conscientiously developed for this purpose in parishes and pastoral areas are commendable," wrote the pontiff. "Yet such courses alone are insufficient, for they must be preceded and supported by an education in love that accompanies a person's growth from childhood."

Pope Leo highlighted Francis' post-synodal apostolic exhortation that followed the Synod on the Family, saying that "marriage preparation begins at birth."

Pope Leo said, "the values of openness to life and respect for life, from conception to natural death, are also rooted in this charity, which is fundamental to our existence and to our life together as human beings. The family is the foremost guardian of these values, a beacon for the good of humanity."

Story courtesy Mares, OSV News via NCR Online

..... Safe People, Places & Practices.
activities, ministries and services free from abuse, exploitation and harm
If you think it's wrong report it.

Potluck Dinner - 25 October

A reminder that our last Parish Potluck Dinner for 2026 is this Sunday (25 October) at 6pm in the Parish Hall (after the 5pm Youth-Led Mass). All are welcome – come to share dinner together and catch up with friends new and old over a meal. Please bring a main or dessert to share and your own drinks. Meals can be dropped off at the hall right before 5pm Mass or when Potluck begins. See you there!



Youth-Led Mass - 25 October

A reminder that our Parish Youth-Led Mass is this Sunday (25 October) at 5pm Mass at SPC and everyone is invited to join us! If you're a high schooler or young adult, it's not too late to get involved in serving (music, altar serving, reading, computer, Communion Minister, offertory, collector) – please email

Sam at samuel.mead@outlook.com if you can help out. Hope to see you there!



Young Adults Group

This Monday (26 October) for Young Adults Group, we'll have a Rosary and prayer night (dinner included) at SPC from 6:30-8pm, seeing as October is the month of the Rosary! The week after (Monday 2 November), we're going to Adoration at Mater Dei Church from 6-7pm and going out for dinner afterwards. All young adults (18-30) are invited. For more info and to join our YA Group Chat, text Lauren on 0487 635 721.

The Story Behind Fr Jack Rosenskjar's Antimension

Celebrating Fr Jack Rosenskjar's ministry and his generous gift to the archives of an antimension.

An antimension is a consecrated altar cloth used in the Byzantine Christian tradition during the celebration of the Divine Liturgy. Its name comes from the Greek "antiminsion", meaning "instead of the table," reflecting its function as a portable altar. To read more on this story please click on this link: [Watch now](#)



ADVENT RESOURCES

Advent invites us to listen again to the quiet movements of the heart. This year we have two resources to choose from:

The Way of the Heart from Archdiocesan ministries or Presence from Woollongong Diocese.

Both books cost \$7.00 and can be purchased from the Parish Office.



Safeguarding Notice

If you have any of the following outstanding safeguarding topics due you may like to use the following Volunteer Training Webinar on Tuesday, 27 October 2026 to complete them.

This webinar will run between 2pm and 4pm as follows:

14:00 - 15:00 Safeguarding Training and QLD Reportable Conduct Scheme

15:05 - 15:25 Sexual Harassment

15:30 - 15:45 Emergency Management

15:45 - 16:00 WHS Induction Checklist

*Please note that these timings are an estimate. Please log in 10 minutes earlier for your session in case we are ahead of time. To attend on the day, please follow the below link: Microsoft Teams meeting

Join: [https://teams.microsoft.com/join/485060114330577?](https://teams.microsoft.com/join/485060114330577?p=OWglDVEqK0EVDHr5uW)

[p=OWglDVEqK0EVDHr5uW](https://teams.microsoft.com/join/485060114330577?p=OWglDVEqK0EVDHr5uW)

Meeting ID: 485 060 114 330 577 Passcode: 284GD73f

Shortly before the webinar starts, you will be admitted into the training.

Thank you for help us keep our parish community safe.

Pastoral care in hospitals – Centacare is seeking people interested in volunteering once each week to provide pastoral and spiritual care to Catholic patients in our public hospitals in our strongly established teams. The people we are seeking must have a qualification or significant background in a human service discipline with some level of formal theological training. If you are retired, or semi-retired from such a career, in very good health and have one morning per week available for a most rewarding volunteer role in the spirit of the Gospel, please talk further with me with no obligation.

E: judy.norris@bne.centacare.net.au Mob: 0428 669 572

THE BRISBANE ORATORY
CHRISTMAS MARKET

MARY IMMACULATE CHURCH HALL

NOVEMBER 21st TWILIGHT MARKET 4PM-9.30PM

NOVEMBER 22nd SUNDAY MARKET 7.30AM-1.30PM

HANDMADE GIFTS, HOMEMADE TREATS, & CHRISTMAS SHOPPING.
A WONDERFUL SELECTION OF STALLS RUN BY TALENTED MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY

APPLY FOR A STALL
3848 1107
PARISH OFFICE

CATHOLIC MISSION

Don't forget to return your envelopes as soon as possible. They can be left on the collection plate at any of our Masses.

As the parish journeys towards Divine Renovation we invite you to ask the Holy Spirit to help you discern what you can do to help our parish go from Maintenance to a Missionary church.

We all have talents make yours count!



Something for a laugh....



Families on Holidays!!!!

Dad insisted we leave at 5am to beat the traffic. We did. Unfortunately, our luggage didn't leave until Mum went back for it.

Our family has two holiday budgets: the one we agree on before we leave, and the one we agree never to discuss when we get home.

We told the kids our holiday accommodation had no Wi-Fi. They stared at us. For a moment, we thought we'd finally made eye contact. Then we realised they were checking whether we were serious.

Enjoy your week ahead.....



"The Parish of St John's Wood The Gap would like to acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of this land, the Turrbal and Jagera people, and pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging. We acknowledge their continued connection to the land, water and community".

ST JOHN'S WOOD THE GAP PARISH

Office Hours

Mon, Wed, Fri:- 8:30am - 3:30pm

Tue, Thurs: - 8:30am - 12:30pm

Contact

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Web: www.stjohnswoodthegap.net.au

Facebook: [StJohnsWoodTheGapParish](https://www.facebook.com/StJohnsWoodTheGapParish)

Bulletin: Email this address if you require a copy

bulletin.thegap@bne.catholic.net.au

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Churches

Mater Dei

16 Philomene Drive, Ashgrove, 4060

St. Peter Chanel

41 Chaprowe Road, The Gap, 4061

Schools

Mater Dei Primary School

T: 3514 4100

St Peter Chanel Primary School

T: 3300 1202

A vocation view: Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time – C/1

Be humble and allow God to do great things through you. (Luke 18:9-14)



Scan the QR code to find out more, or call 1300 133 544
www.vocationbrisbane.com
Follow us on socials @vocationbrisbane



- " The Editor retains the right to edit any items that are submitted to the Bulletin.
- " Some items in the bulletin are sourced from @Majellan Media.
- " Cut off time for the bulletin is 3pm Wednesday.



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